



Summary

Main Features

NOTES

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Job Search Experience Survey, conducted throughout Australia in July 2011 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS).

This publication presents information about the experiences of unemployed people in seeking work, in terms of the steps they have taken to find work and the difficulties they have encountered in finding work. It also presents information about employed people who started their current job in the previous 12 months. For this group, data on the steps taken to attain work and current job details are provided.

From July 2011, this publication also presents information about persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months, including steps taken to find work and difficulties in finding work. Further, the survey provides information about Owner Managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months including the reasons for starting or purchasing their business.

In addition, demographic information is provided for all of these groups.

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

This survey was redeveloped in 2011 to capture information on persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months. Information was also collected on owner managers and their reasons for starting/purchasing a business. For more information on these changes see Appendix 1.

ROUNDING

As estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Supplementary Surveys Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206, <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

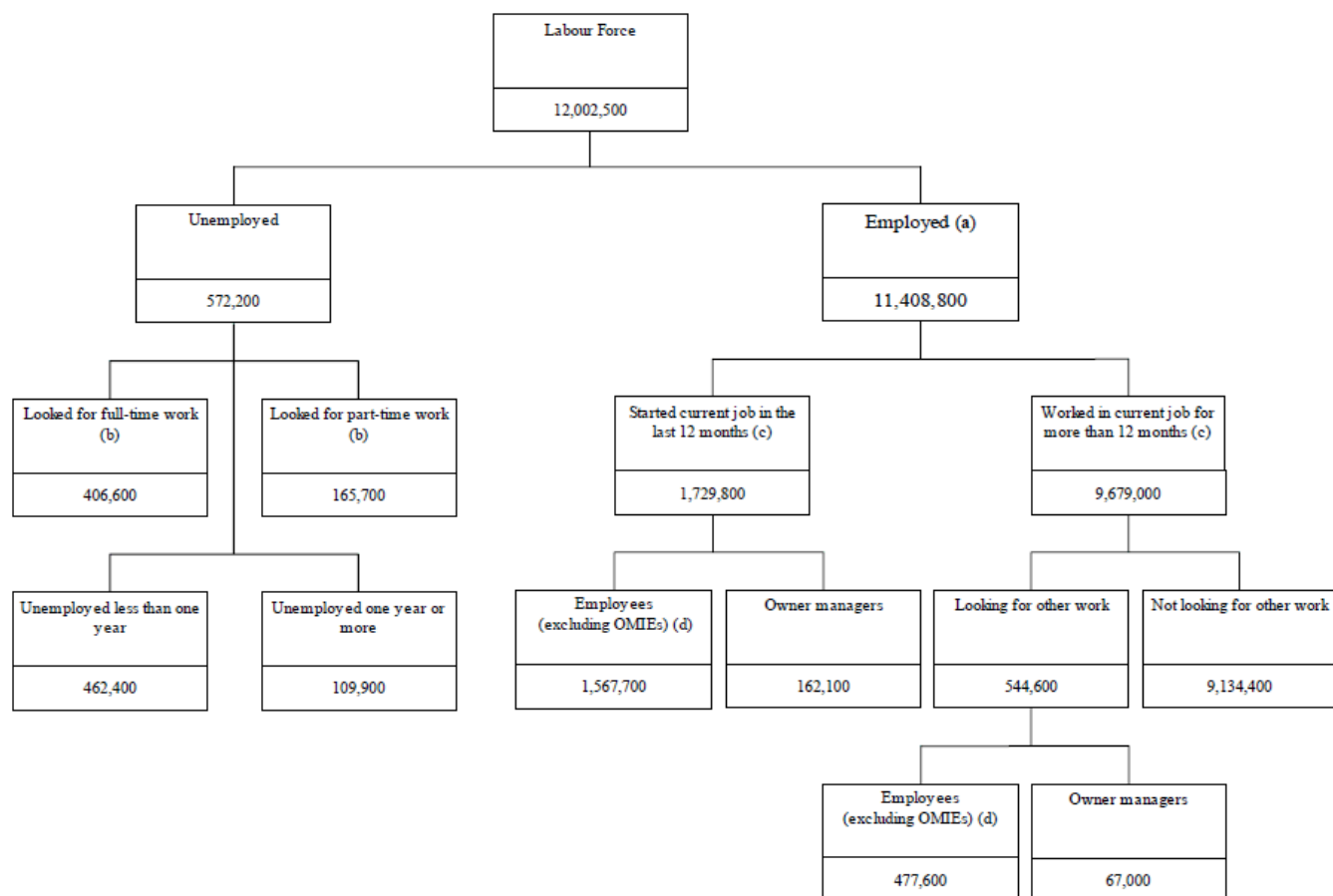
Conceptual Framework

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The following diagram illustrates the conceptual framework for the 2011 Job Search Experience Survey. It presents three mutually exclusive groups in the labour force as at July 2011:

- unemployed persons (572,200);
- employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months (1.7 million); and
- persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months (544,600).



(a) Excludes 21,500 persons who were contributing family workers
 (b) See Glossary for definition of unemployed looking for full-time or part-time work.
 (c) See Glossary for definition of current job.
 (d) Owner managers of incorporated enterprises.

Summary Of Findings

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

OVERVIEW

In July 2011, there were 572,200 persons (300,300 males and 271,900 females) who were unemployed. Of these:

- 80% of unemployed males were looking for full-time work;
- 61% of unemployed females were looking for full-time work; and
- 85% of unemployed persons had not started a job in the previous 12 months.

In July 2011, there were 1.7 million job starters (employed persons who had started their current job in the previous 12 months). Of these:

- 59% searched for work for less than 1 year before starting current job;
- 67% were working full-time;
- 28% were aged 25-34 years; and
- 20% were aged 45 years and over.

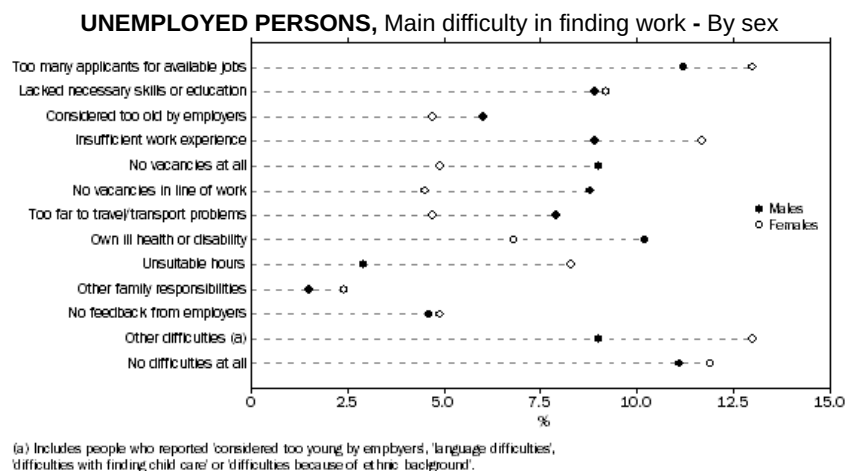
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

Duration of unemployment

The majority (81%) of unemployed persons had been unemployed for less than one year. The percentage of unemployed persons who had been unemployed for one year or more was 18% in 2010 and 19% in 2011. The median duration of unemployment is the same as it was in 2010, that is, 14 weeks.

Difficulties in finding work

In July 2011, the main difficulty in finding work for unemployed persons was 'too many applicants for available jobs' (12%), followed by 'insufficient work experience' (10%).



The difficulties in finding work for unemployed persons varied with age, sex, duration of unemployment and the type of work for which they were looking (full-time or part-time).

The main difficulty for persons aged 15-19 years was 'insufficient work experience' (19%) whereas, the main difficulty in finding work for persons aged 45 years and over was 'considered too old by employers' (18%).

For unemployed males, the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work were:

- 'too many applicants for available jobs' (11%);
- 'own ill health or disability' (10%); and
- 'no vacancies at all' (9%).

For unemployed females, the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work were:

- 'too many applicants for available jobs' (13%);
- 'insufficient work experience' (12%); and
- 'lacked necessary skills or education' (9%).

For long-term unemployed persons, the most commonly reported main difficulties were:

- 'own ill health or disability' (17%); and
- 'lacked necessary skills or education' (13%).

For persons who had been unemployed for less than 1 year the most commonly reported main difficulties were:

- 'too many applicants for available jobs' (12%);
- 'insufficient work experience' (10%); and
- 'lacked necessary skills or education' (8%).

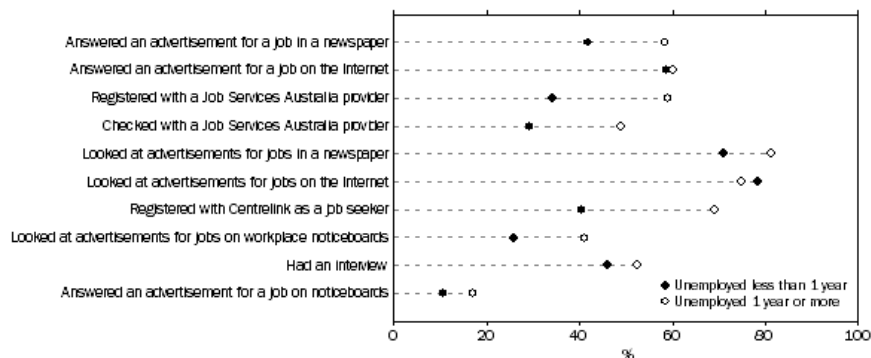
There were 65,800 unemployed persons who reported that they had 'no difficulties at all' in finding work. Of those reporting no difficulties, 70% had been unemployed for less than eight weeks.

All steps taken to find work

In July 2011, the percentage of persons looking for full-time work was 71% of unemployed persons. This compares with 72% of unemployed persons in 2010. The most common steps taken to find work (both full-time and part-time) reported by unemployed persons were:

- 'wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work' (85%);
- 'looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet' (78%);
- 'looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper' (73%); and
- 'answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet' (59%).

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, Selected steps taken to find work(a) - By duration of current period of unemployment



(a) Refers to all steps taken to find work, therefore people may appear in more than one category.

For steps taken to find work, the largest percentage point difference between long-term unemployed persons and those who had been unemployed for less than 1 year were:

- 'registered with Centrelink as a job seeker' (70% and 40% respectively);
- 'registered with a Job Services Australia provider' (59% and 34% respectively); and
- 'checked with a Job Services Australia provider' (49% and 29% respectively).

Older and younger unemployed

In July 2011, 37% (213,200) of unemployed persons were aged 15-24 years compared to 25% (141,700) of unemployed persons who were aged 45 years and over.

The most common steps taken to find work reported by those aged 15-24 years were 'wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work' (84%) and 'looked at advertisements for a job on the Internet' (79%). The most common steps reported by those aged 45 years and over were 'wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work' (87%) and 'looked at advertisements for a job in the newspaper' (82%).

ALL JOB STARTERS

In July 2011 there were 1.7 million job starters (employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months). Of these:

- 93% were employees (including OMIEs);
- 35% usually worked part-time hours, of whom 38% preferred to work more hours;
- 59% were aged 15-34 years;
- 7% were aged 55 years and over;
- 61% had a non-school qualification;
- 59% looked for work for less than 1 year before attaining their current job (of whom 74% looked for work for between 1 and 13 weeks);
- 5% looked for work for 1 year or more; and
- 36% did not look for work.

EMPLOYEE JOB STARTERS (EXCLUDING OMIES)

In July 2011 there were 1.6 million employee¹ job starters, of whom 42% did not have paid leave entitlements in their current job. Of those without leave entitlements:

- 42% were aged 15-24 years;
- 17% were aged 45 and over; and
- 55% were females.

The majority (90%) of employee¹ job starters had worked before. Of these:

- 37% were out of work prior to starting their current job; and
- 30% were aged 25-34.

All steps taken to attain a job

Of employee¹ job starters, the most commonly reported step to attain a job was 'had an interview with an employer' (66%). For the steps taken to attain a job, the largest percentage point difference between those who had worked before and first

job holders were:

- 'answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet' (40% and 31% respectively);
- 'looked for advertisements for jobs on the Internet' (50% and 42% respectively);
- 'registered with other employment agency' (13% and 8% respectively); and
- 'answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper' (21% and 16% respectively).

Around 153,700 employee¹ job starters had either considered or had actually started or purchased a business in the last 12 months. Of these, 24,900 had started or purchased a business but had not continued with it.

OWNER MANAGERS

In July 2011, there were 162,100 owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months. The main reasons most commonly reported for starting or purchasing a business were:

- 26% wanted to be their own boss;
- 23% wanted financial gain;
- 20% for other reasons; and
- 15% wanted control over working conditions.

PERSONS EMPLOYED FOR MORE THAN A YEAR IN THEIR CURRENT JOB AND LOOKED FOR WORK

In July 2011, there were 544,600 persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months. Of these:

- 52% were males;
- 61% were full-time workers;
- 30% were aged 25-34; and
- 88% were employees (excluding OMIEs).

The main reasons for looking for work were:

- wanted better pay (42% males and 33% females); and
- wanted a change (33% males and 38% females).

END NOTE

1. Excludes owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIEs).

About this Release

Provides estimates of unemployed persons classified by difficulties in finding work, duration of current period of unemployment, active steps taken to find work, whether looking for full-time or part-time work, educational attainment, and number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months. Estimates can also be cross-classified by demographic information such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth.

Also provides estimates of employed persons who were formerly jobseekers but were now (as at the survey reference period) employed and were successful in securing that job in the previous 12 months. Estimates can also be cross-classified by demographic information such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

¹ The statistics in this publication were compiled from data collected in the Job Search Experience Survey (JSE), conducted throughout Australia in July 2011 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey

(LFS). Respondents to the LFS who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions.

2 The publication [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) contains information about survey design, sample redesign, scope, coverage and population benchmarks relevant to the monthly LFS, which also apply to supplementary surveys. The publication [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) also contains definitions of demographic and labour force characteristics, and information about telephone interviewing which are relevant to both the monthly LFS and supplementary surveys.

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

3 The conceptual framework used in Australia's LFS aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians.

4 Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling these estimates, are presented in [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

SCOPE

5 The scope of the LFS is restricted to people aged 15 years and over and excludes the following people:

- members of the permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from the Census and estimated populations;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

6 Students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for people with disabilities), and inmates of prisons are excluded from all supplementary surveys.

7 This supplementary survey was conducted in both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excluded people living in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in very remote parts of Australia.

8 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, single job holders who were contributing family workers are excluded from this survey.

9 The survey relates to people who were unemployed in July 2011, persons employed in July 2011 who started their current job in the previous 12 months and persons employed for more than a year who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

COVERAGE

10 The estimates in this publication relate to people covered by the survey in July 2011. In the LFS, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0) for more details.

SAMPLE SIZE

11 Supplementary surveys are not conducted on the full LFS sample. Since August 1994, the sample for supplementary surveys has been restricted to no more than seven-eighths of the LFS sample.

12 The initial sample for the July 2011 LFS consisted of 36,275 private dwelling households and special dwelling units. Of the 29,188 private dwelling households and special dwelling units that remained in the survey after sample loss (e.g. households selected in the survey which had no residents in scope for the LFS, vacant or derelict dwellings and dwellings under construction), approximately 27,689 or 95.2% were fully responding to the Job Search Experience Survey. The number of completed interviews obtained from these private dwellings and special dwelling units (after taking into account scope, coverage and sub-sampling exclusions) was 7,194.

RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES

13 Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors:

- Sampling error is the difference between the published estimate and the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. For more information see the Technical Note.
- Non-sampling errors are inaccuracies that occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents and interviewers, and errors made in coding and processing data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and effective processing procedures.

SEASONAL FACTORS

14 The estimates are based on information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

CLASSIFICATIONS USED

15 Country of birth data are classified according to the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC), Second Edition (cat. no. 1269.0).

16 Occupation data are classified according to ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1, 2009 (cat. no. 1220.0).

17 Industry data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0).

18 Educational attainment data are classified according to the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (cat. no. 1272.0). See Appendix 2 for further information.

NOTES ON ESTIMATES

19 Employees are classified as 'with paid leave entitlements' if they said 'yes' to either of the following questions:

- 'Does your employer provide you with paid sick leave?'
 - 'Does your employer provide you with paid holiday leave?'
- In all other cases, employees are categorised as 'without paid leave entitlements'.

COMPARABILITY OF TIME SERIES

20 The Labour Force Survey estimates, and estimates from the supplementary surveys, are calculated in such a way as to sum to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. Generally, revisions are made to population benchmarks after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing (Census), however revisions were made to the population benchmarks from July 2010, including those used for the 2011 Job Search Experience Survey, to reflect revisions to ERP. For more details on population benchmarks, see the Explanatory Notes in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0). and for details about the revisions made, see the article in the September 2010 issue of Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0).

COMPARABILITY WITH MONTHLY LFS STATISTICS

21 Due to differences in the scope and sample size of this supplementary survey and that of the monthly LFS, the estimation procedure may lead to some small variations between labour force estimates from this survey and those from the LFS.

COMPARABILITY WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS

22 From July 2004, a change has been made to the category 'considered too young or too old by employers' for the data items 'all difficulties in finding work' and 'main difficulty in finding work'. The category has been split into 'considered too young by employers' and 'considered too old by employers'. Data for 'considered too young by employers' are not published separately in all relevant tables, but are available on request.

23 The JSE supplementary survey was redesigned in 2011 to broaden the scope of existing JSE populations and to introduce two new populations. In conjunction with these changes, a number of new data items are now presented in this publication and/or available on request.

24 The changes have resulted in a break in series across all populations and users need to exercise caution when comparing data in the 2011 publication with previous releases. For more information, refer to Appendix 1.

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

25 JSE was first conducted in July 2002. Results of similar surveys on the job search experience of unemployed people conducted in July 1984, July 1985, June 1986, July 1988, July 1990, June 1991, and annually from July 1992 to July 2001 were published in various issues of Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0). Information on people who had started work for an employer for wages or salary during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week was collected in June 1986, and two-yearly from July 1990 to July 2000 and was published in Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6245.0).

NEXT SURVEY

26 The ABS plans to conduct this survey again in July 2012.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

27 ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the Census and Statistics Act, 1905.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

28 ABS publications which may also be of interest include:

- [Australian Labour Market Statistics](#) (cat. no. 6105.0);
- [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0);
- [Labour Force Experience, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6206.0);
- [Labour Mobility, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6209.0);
- [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001);
- [Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6220.0); and
- [Underemployed Workers, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6265.0).

29 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are available from the [Statistics Page](#) on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily [Release Advice](#) on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Active steps taken to find work

Active steps taken by unemployed persons in their search for work during the current period of unemployment include:

- wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work;
- answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper;
- answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet;
- answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards;
- had an interview;
- contacted friends or relatives;
- advertised or tendered for work; and
- registered with a Job Services Australia provider registered with other employment agency.

All difficulties in finding work

All difficulties in finding work experienced by unemployed persons during the current period of unemployment.

All steps taken to find work

All steps taken by unemployed persons in their search for work during the current period of unemployment.

All steps taken to attain a job

All steps taken to attain a job by persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months. Refers to steps taken to attain a job, not necessarily the current job.

Bachelor Degree or above

Bachelor Degree or above includes qualifications at the Post Graduate Degree level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level and Bachelor Degree level.

Centrelink

Centrelink is a statutory authority responsible for delivering a range of Commonwealth Government services, including the registration of persons for job search assistance and income support.

Certificate not further defined

Survey responses are coded to Certificate not further defined (n.f.d.) when there is not enough information to code them to Certificate I, II, III or IV in the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001 (cat. no. 1272.0), Level of Education classification.

Contributing family workers

Persons who work without pay in an economic enterprise operated by a relative.

Current job

A job that a person is currently working in and has lasted, or is likely to last, for a period of two weeks or more. For persons who have commenced more than one job in the previous 12 months, it is the job most recently started.

Duration of current period of unemployment

The period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.

Duration of looking for work before current job

The number of weeks or years that employed persons were looking for work before being offered their current job or starting their own business. For employed persons who had worked before, it includes any time they were looking for work before leaving their previous employer.

Employed

Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Employee (excluding OMIEs) job starters

Persons, excluding those who operate their own incorporated enterprise with or without employees, who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind and started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Employees

Persons who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind, or persons who operate their own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

Employers

Persons who operate their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engage independently in a profession or trade, and hire one or more employees.

Employment type in current job

Classifies employed persons according to the following categories on the basis of their current job:

- Employees (excluding OMIEs);
 - With paid leave entitlements;
 - Without paid leave entitlements;
- Owner managers of incorporated enterprises; and
- Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises.

Employment type in main job

For this survey, employment type in main job classifies employed persons according to the following categories on the basis of their main job (that is, the job in which the most hours were usually worked):

- Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises OMIEs);
- Owner managers of incorporated enterprises;
- Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises; and
- Contributing family workers.

First job ever held lasting two weeks or more

Refers to employees (excluding OMIEs) who had never worked for two weeks or more before starting their current job.

Full-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and others who, although usually working fewer than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

Had an interview

Includes face-to-face and phone interviews.

Had worked before

Refers to employees (excluding OMIEs) who had worked before and were either out of work or changed their employer before starting their current job.

Incorporated enterprise

An enterprise which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited liability company).

Industry

An industry is a group of businesses or organisations that undertake similar economic activities to produce both goods and services. In this publication, industry refers to ANZSIC Division as classified according to the [Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification \(ANZSIC\), 2006](#) (cat. no. 1292.0).

Job Network/Job Services employment agency

In July 2009, the Job Network was replaced by Job Services Australia. The Job Network/Job Services Australia is a national network of private, community and government organisations on contract to the government to provide employment placement services to the community. Job seekers who are registered with Centrelink for job search assistance are able to contact a Job Services Australia provider in their area to receive this service.

Job starters

Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Left a job

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and who left that job voluntarily.

Level of highest educational attainment

Level of highest educational attainment identifies the highest achievement a person has attained in any area of study. It is not a measurement of the relative importance of different fields of study but a ranking of qualifications and other educational attainments regardless of the particular area of study or the type of institution in which the study was undertaken. See Appendix 2 for an explanation of how highest level is derived.

Level of highest non-school qualification

Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at the Post Graduate Degree level, Master Degree level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level, Bachelor Degree level, Advanced Diploma and Diploma level, and Certificates I, II, III and IV levels. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications.

Long-term unemployed

Persons whose duration of current period unemployment is 12 months or more.

Lost a job

Unemployed persons who have worked for two weeks or more in the past two years and who left that job involuntarily.

Main difficulty in finding work

The main difficulty in finding work experienced during the current period of unemployment.

Main English-speaking countries

The list of main English-speaking countries provided here is not an attempt to classify countries on the basis of whether or not English is the predominant or official language of each country. It is a list of the main countries from which Australia receives, or has received, significant numbers of overseas settlers who are likely to speak English. These countries comprise the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and the United States of America.

Main job

The job in which most hours are usually worked.

Mean duration of current period of unemployment

The duration obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been unemployed by the number of persons in that group.

Median duration of current period of unemployment

The duration which divides unemployed persons into two groups of equal size, one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the mid point, and the other, persons whose duration is below it.

Number of offers of employment

The number of separate offers of employment received during the current period of unemployment.

Number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months

The number of times persons reported being out of work and looking for a job during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week.

Occupation

An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their title and tasks, skill level and skill specialisation which are grouped together for the purposes of classification. In this publication occupation refers to Major Group as defined by ANZSCO - Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, Revision 1, 2009 (cat. no. 1220.0).

Own account workers

Persons who operate their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engaged independently in a profession or trade, and hired no employees.

Owner managers

Persons who work in their own business, with or without employees, whether or not the business is an incorporated enterprise. Comprises owner managers of incorporated enterprises and owner managers of unincorporated enterprises.

Owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIE)

Persons who work in their own incorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited liability company). These persons are classified as employees under 'status in employment'.

Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises

Persons who operate their own unincorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred. Includes those engaged independently in a trade or profession. These persons are classified as employers under 'status in employment' if their business has employees, or own account worker if they do not.

Part-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked fewer than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and who either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Preferred number of hours

The number of hours unemployed persons would like to work each week.

Reasons for turning down job offers

Classifies reasons for turning down job offers in current period of unemployment according to the following categories:

- Unsuitable job conditions
 - Unsatisfactory pay/conditions
 - Not in locality or line of work
 - Hours unsuitable
 - Unwilling to move state/city
 - Too far to travel
- Personal reasons
 - Own short-term illness or injury
 - Own long-term health condition or disability
 - Pregnancy
 - Affect welfare payments/pension may be affected
 - Returned to study
- Family reasons
 - Childcare
 - Ill health of other than self
- Other
 - Waiting to start another job/starting new business
 - Other reasons
 - Did not know

Status in employment

Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers or contributing family workers.

Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months

The total number of weeks a person has been both out of work and looking for work at the same time during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Unemployed looking for full-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for full-time work and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were not available for work in the reference week because they were waiting to start a new full-time job.

Unemployed looking for part-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for part-time work only and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were not available for work in the reference week because they were waiting to start a new part-time job.

Usually worked full-time hours

Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs).

Usually worked part-time hours

Employed persons who usually worked fewer than 35 hours a week (in all jobs).

Whether had prior knowledge that job was available

Whether employed persons knew that a job was available with their current employer before making an approach to that employer for a job.

Whether had ever worked for two weeks or more

Whether unemployed persons had previously held a job lasting two weeks or more.

Whether out of work prior to starting job

Whether employed persons were not employed immediately prior to starting their current job.

Whether preferred to work more hours than usually worked

Whether employed persons who usually worked part-time hours, preferred to work more hours.

With paid leave entitlements

The entitlement of employees (excluding OMIEs) to either paid holiday leave or paid sick leave (or both) in their current job. Persons employed in their own business or who were contributing family workers were not asked questions about paid leave entitlements. For more information, see paragraph 19 of the Explanatory Notes.

Without paid leave entitlements

Employees (excluding OMIEs) who were not entitled to, or did not know whether they were entitled to, paid holiday leave and paid sick leave in their current job. For more information, see paragraph 19 of the Explanatory Notes.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousand
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ABSCQ	Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCED	Australian Standard Classification of Education
LFS	Labour Force Survey
n.f.d.	not further defined
OMIE	owner manager of incorporated enterprise
RSE	relative standard error
SACC	Standard Australian Classification of Countries
SE	standard error
wks	weeks

Job Search Experience Survey Redesign (Appendix)

APPENDIX 1 JOB SEARCH EXPERIENCE SURVEY REDESIGN

OVERVIEW

The July 2011 Job Search Experience Survey (JSE) was redeveloped to capture more information on a person's experience in looking for work. This relates to unemployed persons, persons who had been employed for more than a year in their current job, as well as owner managers and their reasons for starting/purchasing a business.

This change has resulted in a break in series for all current population groups:

- Unemployed persons;
- Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months; and
- Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

The redevelopment also introduces two new population groups:

- Owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months; and
- Persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

Users need to exercise care when comparing data about current populations in the 2011 publication with previous releases

as data about these population groups have changed.

CHANGES IN SCOPE

Prior to July 2011, the following persons were included in the JSE survey:

- persons who started working in a new job/business, were still working in the most recently started job at the time of interview and changed employer to start that job; and
- unemployed persons.

From July 2011, in addition to the current LFS and JSE survey exclusions:

- single jobholders who were contributing family workers in their current job are excluded from the survey;
- persons who were employed for more than a year in their current job and were looking for work during the previous 12 months are included in the survey; and
- future job starters (who did not look for work) are included in the survey (estimated at 4,700 persons in 2011).

As a result of these changes, there are increases to the populations of JSE. The following tables show a comparison between the newly derived JSE populations and previous JSE (prior to July 2011) populations using 2011 data.

Population 2. Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months

	2011 data					
	Population 2 July 2011(a)		Population 2 prior to July 2011(b)		Population 2 July 2010(b)	
	000	%	000	%	000	%
Sex						
Males	909.0	52.6	866.5	53.5	732.1	51.6
Females	820.7	47.4	753.8	46.5	686.3	48.4
State						
New South Wales	509.8	29.5	473.2	29.2	383.6	27.0
Victoria	445.8	25.8	417.7	25.8	366.3	25.8
Queensland	371.6	21.5	352.0	21.7	310.2	21.9
South Australia	109.2	6.3	101.7	6.3	98.6	7.0
Western Australia	203.2	11.7	190.0	11.7	180.5	12.7
Tasmania	32.6	1.9	30.4	1.9	30.4	2.1
Northern Territory	22.2	1.3	21.2	1.3	17.1	1.2
Australian Capital Territory	35.5	2.1	34.1	2.1	31.7	2.2
Occupation of current job						
Managers	143.9	8.3	130.3	8.0	112.7	7.9
Professionals	320.0	18.5	288.4	17.8	245.3	17.3
Technicians and trades workers	243.8	14.1	235.4	14.5	204.9	14.4
Community and personal service workers	194.6	11.3	174.4	10.8	167.0	11.8
Clerical and administrative workers	283.4	16.4	267.5	16.5	215.4	15.2
Sales workers	212.9	12.3	205.3	12.7	191.5	13.5
Machinery operators and drivers	111.0	6.4	107.3	6.6	97.0	6.8
Labourers	220.2	12.7	211.6	13.1	184.6	13.0
Total	1 729.8	100.0	1 620.3	100.0	1 418.5	100.0

(a) New derivation method

(b) Old derivation method

Population 3. Employees (excluding ~~OMIEs~~) who started their current job in the previous 12 months

	2011 data					
	Population 3		Population 3		Population 3	
	July 2011(a)		prior to July 2011(b)		July 2010(b)	
	000	%	000	%	000	%
Sex						
Males	809.8	51.7	773.9	52.6	646.2	50.6
Females	757.8	48.3	697.0	47.4	631.5	49.4
State						
New South Wales	461.4	29.4	430.1	29.2	339.6	26.6
Victoria	401.1	25.6	375.7	25.5	335.6	26.3
Queensland	339.9	21.7	321.1	21.8	280.7	22.0
South Australia	98.3	6.3	92.3	6.3	86.7	6.8
Western Australia	183.7	11.7	173.0	11.8	162.6	12.7
Tasmania	28.3	1.8	26.2	1.8	26.4	2.1
Northern Territory	20.5	1.3	19.6	1.3	16.1	1.3
Australian Capital Territory	34.2	2.2	32.8	2.2	30.1	2.4
Occupation of current job						
Managers	109.4	7.0	98.9	6.7	82.9	6.5
Professionals	280.0	17.9	253.7	17.2	212.5	16.6
Technicians and trades workers	215.1	13.7	207.9	14.1	180.3	14.1
Community and personal service workers	183.9	11.7	163.8	11.1	157.1	12.3
Clerical and administrative workers	268.8	17.1	254.2	17.3	203.0	15.9
Sales workers	203.1	13.0	196.4	13.3	180.0	14.1
Machinery operators and drivers	106.0	6.8	103.2	7.0	90.9	7.1
Labourers	201.3	12.8	193.0	13.1	171.1	13.4
Total	1 567.7	100.0	1 470.9	100.0	1 277.8	100.0

(a) New derivation method

(b) Old derivation method

NEW DATA ITEMS

As a result of the redevelopment, the following data items are included in the JSE 2011 publication:

- Whether turned down job offers (in current period of unemployment);
- Reasons for turning down job offers (in current period of unemployment);
- Main reason for turning down job offers (in current period of unemployment);
- Whether considered starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months;
- Reasons for not starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months;
- Whether started or purchased a business;
- Reasons for starting or purchasing a business;
- Main reason for starting or purchasing a business;
- All steps taken to find work in the previous 12 months;
- Reasons for looking for other work while still employed;
- All difficulties in getting another job; and
- Main difficulty in getting another job.

CHANGES TO DATA ITEMS

The data item 'Whether first job ever held lasting two weeks or more' has been amended to include the population of owner managers.

Persons who had been unemployed for one year or less were asked questions about time spent looking for work. Previously this was not the case. As a result of this change the data item 'Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months' has changed.

Classification of education (Appendix)

APPENDIX 2 CLASSIFICATION OF EDUCATION

CLASSIFICATION OF EDUCATION

In 2001, the ABS Classification of Qualifications (ABSCQ) (cat. no. 1262.0) was replaced by the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (cat. no. 1272.0). The ASCED is a national standard classification which can be applied to all sectors of the Australian education system including schools, vocational education and training and higher education. ASCED replaces a number of classifications previously used in administrative and statistical systems, including the ABSCQ. The ASCED comprises two classifications: Level of Education and Field of Education.

Level of Highest Educational Attainment can be derived from information on Highest Year of School Completed and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification. The derivation process determines which of the 'non-school' or 'school' attainments will be regarded as the highest. Usually the higher ranking attainment will be self-evident, but in some cases some Secondary Education is regarded, for the purposes of obtaining a single measure, as higher than some Certificate level attainments.

The following decision table is used to determine which of the responses to questions on Highest Year of School Completed (coded to ASCED Broad Level 6) and Level of Highest Non-school Qualification (coded to ASCED Broad Level 5) will be regarded as the highest. It is emphasised that this table was designed for the purpose of obtaining a single value for the output variable Level of Highest Educational Attainment and is not intended to convey any other ordinality.

Decision Table: Level of Highest Educational Attainment							
ASCED LEVEL OF EDUCATION CODES	Certificate n.f.d. (500)	Certificate III or IV n.f.d. (510)	Certificate IV (511)	Certificate III (514)	Certificate I or II n.f.d. (520)	Certificate II (521)	Certificate I (524)
Secondary Education n.f.d. (600)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I
Senior Secondary Education n.f.d. (610)	Senior Secondary n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Senior Secondary n.f.d.	Senior Secondary n.f.d.	Senior Secondary n.f.d.
Year 12 (611)	Year 12	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 12	Year 12	Year 12
Year 11 (613)	Year 11	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 11	Year 11	Year 11
Junior Secondary Education n.f.d. (620)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I
Year 10 (621)	Year 10	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Year 10	Certificate II	Year 10
Year 9 (622)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I
Year 8 (623)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I
Year 7 (624)	Certificate n.f.d.	Certificate III or IV n.f.d.	Certificate IV	Certificate III	Certificate I or II n.f.d.	Certificate II	Certificate I

The decision table is also used to rank the information provided in a survey about the qualifications and attainments of a single individual. It does not represent any basis for comparison between differing qualifications. For example, a person whose Highest Year of School Completed was Year 12, and whose Level of Highest Non-school Qualification was a Certificate III, would have those responses crosschecked on the decision table and would as a result have their Level of Highest Educational Attainment output as Certificate III. However, if the same person answered 'Certificate' to the highest non-school qualification question, without offering any further detail, it would be crosschecked against Year 12 on the decision table as 'Certificate not further defined'. The output would then be 'Year 12'. The decision table, therefore, does not necessarily imply that one qualification is 'higher' than the other.

Populations and Data Items list (Appendix)

APPENDIX 3 POPULATIONS AND DATA ITEMS LIST

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

The ABS has a range of data available on request from the Job Search Experience Survey. This section lists the data items and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are also available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the people in the survey to whom the data relates. Where alternative output categories are available for the same data item, these are shown and the data item name is followed by a bracketed numeral (e.g. Country of birth (2)).

For more information about ABS data available on request, contact Client Services Section in Canberra on (02) 6252 7400, or via email to <information.consultancy@abs.gov.au>.

Population 1

Unemployed persons.

Population 2

Employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Population 3

Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

Population 4

Owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months.

Population 5

Persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

Data items		Populations
1	State or territory of usual residence	All
	New South Wales	
	Victoria	
	Queensland	
	South Australia	
	Western Australia	
	Tasmania	
	Northern Territory	
	Australian Capital Territory	
2	Area of usual residence	All
	State capital city	
	Balance of state/territory	
3	Region of usual residence	All
	Standard labour force dissemination regions	
4	Sex	All
	Males	
	Females	
5	Marital status	All
	Married	
	Not married	
6	Relationship in household	All
	Family member	
	Husband, wife or partner	
	With dependants	
	Without dependants	
	Lone parent	
	With dependants	
	Without dependants	
	Dependent student	
	Non-dependent child	
	Other related individual	
	Non-family member	
	Lone person	
	Not living alone	
	Relationship not determined	
7A	Country of birth and period of arrival	All
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	Arrived before 1971	
	Arrived 1971-1980	
	Arrived 1981-1990	
	Arrived 1991-2000	
	Arrived 2001 to survey date	
7B	Country of birth (1)	All
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	Born in main English-speaking countries	
	Born in other than main English-speaking countries	
7C	Country of birth (2)	All
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	Oceania and Antarctica	
	North-West Europe	
	Southern and Eastern Europe	
	North Africa and the Middle East	
	South-East Asia	
	North-East Asia	
	Southern and Central Asia	
	Americas	
	Sub-Saharan Africa	
8	Age group (years)	All
	15-19	

	20-24	
	25-34	
	35-44	
	45-54	
	55-59	
	60-64	
	65 and over	
	Note: Age collected in single years.	
9	Number of children in family aged under 15 years	All
	Had children under 15 years	
	1 child	
	2 children	
	3 children	
	4 children	
	5 children	
	6 or more children	
	Did not have children under 15 years	
10	Level of highest educational attainment	1,2,3,4
	Postgraduate Degree	
	Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate	
	Bachelor Degree	
	Advanced Diploma/Diploma	
	Certificate III/IV	
	Certificate I/II	
	Certificate not further defined	
	Year 12	
	Year 11	
	Year 10 or below	
	Other education	
	Level not determined	
	No educational attainment	
11	Level of highest non-school qualification	1,2,3,4
	With a non-school qualification	
	Postgraduate Degree	
	Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate	
	Bachelor Degree	
	Advanced Diploma/Diploma	
	Certificate III/IV	
	Certificate I/II	
	Certificate not further defined	
	Level not determined	
	Without a non-school qualification	
12	Highest year of school completed	1,2,3,4
	Year 12	
	Year 11	
	Year 10	
	Year 9	
	Year 8 or below	
	Never attended school	
13	Highest non-school qualification and whether qualification obtained overseas or within Australia	1,2,3,4
	Born in Australia	
	Born overseas	
	With a non-school qualification	
	Qualification obtained overseas	
	Qualification obtained in Australia	
	Without a non-school qualification	
14A	Number of jobs started in the previous 12 months	1,2,3,4
	None	
	One	
	Two	
	Three or more	
14B	Number of jobs lasting two weeks or more started in the previous 12 months	1,2,3,4
	None	
	One	
	Two	
	Three or more	
15	All steps taken to find work/attain a job	1,3,5
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards	
	Had an interview	
	Contacted friends or relatives	
	Advertised or tendered for work	
	Registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Registered with other employment agency	
	Checked with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Checked with other employment agency	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards	
	Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
	Other	
	Did not take steps to find work/attain a job	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	

16	Whether looked for full-time or part-time work	1
	Looked for full-time work	
	Looked for part-time work	
17	Preferred number of hours	1
	1-15	
	16-29	
	30-34	
	35-39	
	40	
	41-44	
	45-48	
	49 or more	
	Did not know	
	Note: Collected in single hours.	
18	Duration of current period of unemployment	1
	Under 1 year	
	1 and under 4 weeks	
	4 and under 8 weeks	
	8 and under 13 weeks	
	13 and under 26 weeks	
	26 and under 39 weeks	
	39 and under 52 weeks	
	1 year and over	
	1 and under 2 years	
	2 years and over	
19	Whether has been registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	1
	Has been registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
	Has not been registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
20A	All steps taken to find work	1
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards	
	Had an interview	
	Contacted friends or relatives	
	Advertised or tendered for work	
	Registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Registered with other employment agency	
	Checked with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Checked with other employment agency	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards	
	Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
	Other	
	Did not take steps to find work	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	
20B	Active steps taken to find work	1
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards	
	Had an interview	
	Contacted friends or relatives	
	Advertised or tendered for work	
	Registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Registered with other employment agency	
	Took no active steps	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	
20C	Active steps taken to find work and whether has been registered with a Job Services Australia provider	1
	Has been registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	
	Had an interview	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards	
	Contacted friends or relatives	
	Advertised or tendered for work	
	Took no active steps	
	Has not been registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	
20D	Whether has been registered with a Job Services Australia provider	All
	Has been registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Has not been registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
21A	Number of offers of employment in the current period of unemployment	1
	None	
	One	
	Two	

	Three or more	
21B	Whether turned down job offers (in current period of unemployment)	1
	Turned down offers	
	Had not turned down offers	
	Had not received offers	
21C	Reasons for turning down job offers (in current period of unemployment)	1
	Unsuitable job conditions	
	Unsatisfactory pay/conditions	
	Hours unsuitable	
	Other unsuitable job conditions	
	Personal reasons	
	Family reasons	
	Other	
	Had not turned down offers	
	Had not received offers	
21D	Main reason for turning down job offers (in current period of unemployment)	1
	Unsuitable job conditions	
	Unsatisfactory pay/conditions	
	Hours unsuitable	
	Other unsuitable job conditions	
	Personal reasons	
	Family reasons	
	Other	
	Had not turned down offers	
	Had not received offers	
22A	All difficulties in finding work	1
	Too many applicants for available jobs	
	Lacked necessary skills or education	
	Considered too young by employers	
	Considered too old by employers	
	Insufficient work experience	
	No vacancies at all	
	No vacancies in line of work	
	Too far to travel/transport problems	
	Own ill health or disability	
	Language difficulties	
	Unsuitable hours	
	Difficulties with finding child care	
	Other family responsibilities	
	Difficulties because of ethnic background	
	Other difficulties	
	No difficulties at all	
	No feed back from employers	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	
22B	Main difficulty in finding work	1
	Too many applicants for available jobs	
	Lacked necessary skills or education	
	Considered too young by employers	
	Considered too old by employers	
	Insufficient work experience	
	No vacancies at all	
	No vacancies in line of work	
	Too far to travel/transport problems	
	Own ill health or disability	
	Language difficulties	
	Unsuitable hours	
	Difficulties with finding child care	
	Other family responsibilities	
	Difficulties because of ethnic background	
	No feedback from employers	
	Other difficulties	
	No difficulties at all	
23	Number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months	1
	One	
	Two	
	Three or more	
	Did not look for work	
24	Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months	1
	1 and under 2 weeks	
	2 and under 4 weeks	
	4 and under 8 weeks	
	8 and under 13 weeks	
	13 and under 26 weeks	
	26 and under 39 weeks	
	39 and under 52 weeks	
	52 weeks	
25	Whether had ever worked for two weeks or more	1
	Had previously worked	
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Last job 2 years or more ago	
	Had never worked	
26	Status in employment of last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Employees (including OMIEs)	
	Employers	
	Own account workers	

	Contributing family workers	
	Unpaid voluntary workers	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
27	Occupation of last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Managers	
	Professionals	
	Technicians and trades workers	
	Community and personal service workers	
	Clerical and administrative workers	
	Sales workers	
	Machinery operators and drivers	
	Labourers	
	Unpaid voluntary workers	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
28	Industry of last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	
	Mining	
	Manufacturing	
	Electricity, gas, water and waste services	
	Construction	
	Wholesale trade	
	Retail trade	
	Accommodation and food services	
	Transport, postal and warehousing	
	Information media and telecommunications	
	Financial and insurance services	
	Rental, hiring and real estate services	
	Professional, scientific and technical services	
	Administrative and support services	
	Public administration and safety	
	Education and training	
	Health care and social assistance	
	Arts and recreation services	
	Other services	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
29	Whether worked full-time or part-time in last job	1
	Worked full-time	
	Worked part-time	
	Had never worked	
30	Duration of last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Less than 1 year	
	2 and under 4 weeks	
	4 and under 8 weeks	
	8 and under 26 weeks	
	26 and under 52 weeks	
	1 and under 2 years	
	2 and under 5 years	
	5 years and over	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Unpaid voluntary worker	
	Had never worked	
31	Reason for ceasing last job	1
	Last job less than 2 years ago	
	Lost a job	
	Laid off or retrenched	
	Job was temporary or seasonal	
	Own ill health or disability	
	Own business closed down for economic reasons	
	Left a job	
	Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
	Holiday job/returned to studies	
	Other	
	Unpaid voluntary worker	
	Last job 2 or more years ago	
	Had never worked	
32	Whether had job to go to lasting two weeks or more	1
	Had a job to go to	
	Did not have a job to go to	
33	Status in employment in current job	2,3,4
	Employees (including OMIEs)	
	Employers	
	Own account workers	
34	Employment type in main job	2,3,4,5
	Employees (excluding OMIEs)	
	Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	
	Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	
	Contributing family workers	
35	Employment type in current job	2,3,4
	Employees (excluding OMIEs)	
	With paid leave entitlements	

	Without paid leave entitlements	
	Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	
	Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	
36	Month started current job	2,3,4
	July 2010	
	August 2010	
	September 2010	
	October 2010	
	November 2010	
	December 2010	
	January 2011	
	February 2011	
	March 2011	
	April 2011	
	May 2011	
	June 2011	
	July 2011	
37	Duration of looking for work before current job	2,3,4
	Less than 1 year	
	1 and under 4 weeks	
	4 and under 8 weeks	
	8 and under 13 weeks	
	13 and under 26 weeks	
	26 and under 52 weeks	
	1 and under 2 years	
	2 and under 5 years	
	5 years and over	
	Did not look for work	
	Note: Available in single weeks/years.	
38	Occupation of current job	2,3,4
	Managers	
	Professionals	
	Technicians and trades workers	
	Community and personal service workers	
	Clerical and administrative workers	
	Sales workers	
	Machinery operators and drivers	
	Labourers	
39	Full-time or part-time status of current employment	2,3,4,5
	Full-time workers	
	Part-time workers	
40	Whether preferred to work more hours than usually worked	2,3,4
	Usually worked part-time hours	
	Preferred to work more hours	
	Did not prefer to work more hours	
	Did not know	
	Usually worked full-time hours	
41	Whether had paid leave entitlements in current job	3
	With paid leave entitlements	
	Without paid leave entitlements	
42	Whether entitled to paid sick leave in current job	3
	Entitled to paid sick leave	
	Not entitled to paid sick leave	
	Did not know	
43	Whether entitled to paid holiday leave in current job	3
	Entitled to paid holiday leave	
	Not entitled to paid holiday leave	
	Did not know	
44	Whether first job ever held lasting two weeks or more	2,3,4
	First job ever held	
	Had worked before	
	Out of work prior to starting job	
	Not out of work prior to starting job	
45	All steps taken to attain a job	3
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards	
	Had an interview	
	Contacted friends or relatives	
	Advertised or tendered for work	
	Registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Registered with other employment agency	
	Checked with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Checked with other employment agency	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards	
	Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
	Other	
	Did not take steps to attain a job	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	
46	Whether job seeker approached employer	3
	Job seeker approached employer	
	Employer approached job seeker	
47	Whether had prior knowledge that current job was available	3

	Had prior knowledge that job or work was available	
	Job Services Australia provider	
	Other employment agency	
	School programs	
	Careers service at educational institution	
	Advertisements in a newspaper	
	Advertisements on the Internet	
	Advertisements on noticeboards	
	Friends, relatives or company contacts	
	Other sources	
	Did not have prior knowledge that job was available	
48	Role of Job Services Australia in job attainment	3
	Job Services Australia helped job seeker to obtain job in some way	
	Job Services Australia did not help job seeker to obtain job in any way	
	Did not know	
	Did not use Job Services Australia in job attainment	
49	Whether considered starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months	1,3,5
	Had considered starting or purchasing a business	
	Had not considered starting or purchasing a business	
	Had started a business	
	Currently running a business	
50	Reasons for not starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months	1,3,5
	Lack of finance	
	Lack of experience or skills	
	Lack of opportunity (market strength, etc)	
	Other	
	Had started a business	
	Currently running a business	
	Had not considered starting or purchasing a business	
51	Whether started or purchased a business	4
	Started up a business	
	Purchased a business	
	Both	
	Other	
52	Reasons for starting or purchasing a business	4
	Could not find a suitable job with an employer	
	Wanted to be own boss	
	Required/necessary for type of work	
	To employ family members	
	Financial gain	
	Control over working conditions	
	Other reasons	
52A	Main reason for starting or purchasing a business	4
	Could not find a suitable job with an employer	
	Wanted to be own boss	
	Required/necessary for type of work	
	To employ family members	
	Financial gain	
	Control over working conditions	
	Other	
53	All steps taken to find work in the previous 12 months	5
	Wrote, phoned or applied in person to an employer for work	
	Answered an advertisement for a job in a newspaper	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on the Internet	
	Answered an advertisement for a job on noticeboards	
	Had an interview	
	Contacted friends or relatives	
	Advertised or tendered for work	
	Registered with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Registered with other employment agency	
	Checked with a Job Services Australia provider	
	Checked with other employment agency	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs in a newspaper	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on the Internet	
	Looked at advertisements for jobs on noticeboards	
	Registered with Centrelink as a job seeker	
	Other	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	
54	Reasons for looking for other work while still employed	5
	Wanted a change	
	Wanted better pay	
	Wanted better conditions	
	Wanted more hours	
	Other	
55A	All difficulties in getting another job	5
	Too many applicants for available jobs	
	Lacked necessary skills or education	
	Considered too young by employers	
	Considered too old by employers	
	Insufficient work experience	
	No vacancies at all	
	No vacancies in line of work	
	Too far to travel/transport problems	
	Own ill health or disability	

	Language difficulties	
	Unsuitable hours	
	Difficulties with finding child care	
	Other family responsibilities	
	Difficulties because of ethnic background	
	Other difficulties	
	No difficulties at all	
	No feed back from employers	
	Note: Multiple response category. People may appear in more than one category.	
55B	Main difficulty in getting another job	5
	Too many applicants for available jobs	
	Lacked necessary skills or education	
	Considered too young by employers	
	Considered too old by employers	
	Insufficient work experience	
	No vacancies at all	
	No vacancies in line of work	
	Too far to travel/transport problems	
	Own ill health or disability	
	Language difficulties	
	Unsuitable hours	
	Difficulties with finding child care	
	Other family responsibilities	
	Difficulties because of ethnic background	
	No feedback from employers	
	Other difficulties	
	No difficulties at all	

Supplementary Surveys (Appendix)

APPENDIX 4 SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEYS

The Monthly Population Survey program and Multi-Purpose Household Survey program collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of labour surveys collected in these programs. Data from these surveys are available on request and can be obtained by contacting the ABS.

	cat. no.	Frequency	Latest issue
Monthly Population Supplementary Surveys			
Childhood Education and Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	June 2008
Child Employment, Australia	6211.0	Irregular	June 2006
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2011
Employee Earnings, Benefits, and Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	August 2010
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Annual	November 2010
Job Search Experience, Australia	6222.0	Annual	July 2011
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	February 2011
Characteristics of Recent Migrants, Australia(a)	6250.0	Irregular	November 2010
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	February 2010
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	November 2008
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(b)	6216.0	Irregular	August 1997
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	September 2010
Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	September 2010
Working Time Arrangements, Australia(c)	6342.0	Irregular	November 2009
Multi-Purpose Household Surveys			
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	6239.0	Biennial	2010-2011
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia	6238.0	Biennial	2010-2011
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Irregular	2009-2010

(a) This product replaces the publication Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants, Australia (cat. no. 6250.0).

(b) Latest data available on request July 2001.

(c) This product replaces the publication Working Arrangements, Australia (cat. no. 6342.0).

Quality Declaration - Summary

QUALITY DECLARATION - SUMMARY

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

For information on the institutional environment of the ABS, including the legislative obligations of the ABS, financing and governance arrangements, and mechanisms for scrutiny of ABS operations, please see ABS Institutional Environment.

RELEVANCE

The Job Search Experience Survey is the primary ABS data source about the experiences of unemployed people and long-term employed people in seeking work, and information on employed people who started their current job in the previous 12 months. It provides a comprehensive view of the nature and extent of unemployment, the problems unemployed people face in finding a job, and the different steps taken to find a job. For more information on the content and design of the survey refer to Quality Declaration - Relevance.

The Job Search Experience Survey collects information, as at July, on three labour force groups aged 15 years and over:

- unemployed persons;
- employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months; [and](#)
- persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

The Job Search Experience Survey is conducted annually as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey. The main product from the survey is the publication, Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0).

TIMELINESS

The publication is released approximately six months after the completion of enumeration in July. The Job Search Experience Survey is expected to be conducted again in July 2012.

ACCURACY

Estimates from the Job Search Experience Survey, including those presented in the publication, are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.

The Job Search Experience Survey was designed primarily to provide estimates at the Australia level. Broad estimates are available for state/territory and capital city/balance, though users should exercise caution when using estimates at this level because of the presence of high sampling errors. Relative standard errors for all estimates in the publication are available in table T2 in the Technical Note of the publication.

COHERENCE

The conceptual framework presented in the publication is described in more detail in Chapters 3 and 6 of Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001). The statistics from this survey are comparable with other labour statistics produced by the ABS.

The ABS has been conducting the Job Search Experience Survey annually in its current form since 2002. Results of previous surveys on the job search experience of unemployed people conducted in July 1984, July 1985, June 1986, July 1988, July 1990, June 1991 and annually from July 1992 to July 2001 were published in various issues of Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0). Information on people who had started work for an employer for wages or salary during the 12 months up to the end of the reference week was collected in June 1986, and two-yearly from July 1990 to July 2000 and were published in Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6245.0).

The July 2011 Job Search Experience Survey (JSE) was redeveloped to capture more information on a person's experience in looking for work. The redesign resulted in a break in series for all existing population groups as well as the introduction of two new population groups.

Other changes made to the collection methodology of the Job Search Experience Survey since 2002 are reflected in relevant publications. For more information on changes to the survey see Chapter 21.4 of Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

INTERPRETABILITY

Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0) contains tables with footnoted data and a Summary of Findings to aid interpretation of the results of the survey. Detailed Explanatory Notes, a Technical Note and a Glossary are also included providing information on the terminology, classifications and other technical aspects associated with these statistics.

Further commentary is often available through articles and data published in other ABS products, including:

- Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) - refer to the article archive for past articles.
- Australian Social Trends (cat. no. 4102.0) - refer to the article archive.
- Year Book, Australia (cat. no. 1301.0) - refer to the 'Labour' chapter.

ACCESSIBILITY

Job Search Experience, Australia (cat. no. 6222.0) is released electronically via the ABS website as a PDF publication. Additional data may be available on request (subject to data quality). For a list of data items available see Appendix 3 of the publication. Note that detailed data can be subject to high relative standard errors, and in some cases, may result in data being confidentialised.

For further information about these or related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Centre on 1300 135 070 or the Labour Market Statistics Section in Canberra on (02) 6252 6552.

Quality Declaration - Relevance

Content and design

This publication presents detailed information about unemployed people, including steps they have taken to find work, whether they looked for full-time or part-time work and the difficulties they have encountered in finding work. It also presents information about employed people who started their current job in the previous 12 months and persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months. Information about these two populations includes steps taken to attain work and current job details, including occupation and full-time or part-time status of employment as well as whether considered starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months. Demographic information is provided for all three of these groups, including state/territory of usual residence, age, sex, country of birth and level of highest non-school qualification. Information regarding owner managers and employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprise) is also presented in tables.

The survey design information relevant to the Labour Force Survey also applies to the Job Search Experience Survey and other supplementary surveys, with some exceptions for special dwellings. It includes people in both urban and rural areas (excluding very-remote areas) in all states and territories. Refer to the Explanatory Notes of the publication for more information.

Unemployed

People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Employed Persons

People aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four-week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Quality Declaration - Coherence

Revision of population benchmarks

Generally revisions are made to population benchmarks for the LFS after each five-yearly Census of Population and Housing. The last major revision was made in February 2004 to take account of the results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. However in the second half of 2010 revisions were applied to population benchmarks to take into account more up to date information about Net Overseas Migration (a component of the ERP). For more details on population benchmarks, see the Explanatory Notes in *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), and for details about the revisions made, see the article in the September 2010 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

Redevelopment of the JSE 2011 Survey

In July 2011 the Job Search Experience Survey (JSE) was redeveloped to capture more information on a person's experience in looking for work. This relates to unemployed persons, persons who had been employed

for more than a year in their current job, as well as owner managers and their reasons for starting/purchasing a business.

This change has resulted in a break in series for all current population groups:

- unemployed persons;
- employed persons who started their current job in the previous 12 months; and
- employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) who started their current job in the previous 12 months.

The redevelopment also introduces two new population groups:

- Owner managers who started their current business in the previous 12 months; and
- Persons employed for more than a year in their current job who looked for work in the previous 12 months.

Users need to exercise care when comparing data about current populations in the 2011 publication with previous releases as data about these population groups have changed.

Changes in Scope

Prior to July 2011, the following persons were included in the JSE survey:

- persons who started working in a new job/business, were still working in the most recently started job at the time of interview and changed employer to start that job; and
- unemployed persons.

From July 2011, in addition to the current LFS and JSE survey exclusions:

- single job holders who were contributing family workers in their current job are excluded from the survey;
- persons who were employed for more than a year in their current job and were looking for work during the previous 12 months are included in the survey; and
- future job starters (who did not look for work) are included in the survey (estimated at 4,700 persons in 2011).

New data items

As a result of the redevelopment, the following data items are included in the JSE 2011 publication:

- Whether turned down job offers (in current period of unemployment);
- Reasons for turning down job offers (in current period of unemployment);
- Main reason for turning down job offers (in current period of unemployment);
- Whether considered starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months;
- Reasons for not starting or purchasing a business in the last 12 months;
- Whether started or purchased a business;
- Reasons for starting or purchasing a business;
- Main reason for starting or purchasing a business;
- All steps taken to find work in the previous 12 months;
- Reasons for looking for other work while still employed;
- All difficulties in getting another job; and
- Main difficulty in getting another job.

Changes to data items

The data item 'Whether first job ever held lasting two weeks or more' has been amended to include the population of owner managers.

Persons who had been unemployed for one year or less were asked questions about time spent looking for work. Previously this was not the case. As a result of this change the data item 'Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months' has changed.

Other changes to the Job Search Experience Survey Include

In 2009:

- a new data item was introduced 'Number of children in family aged under 15 years'.

In 2008:

- a new population group was introduced (Population 3), 'Employees (excluding OMIEs) who started their current job in the previous 12 months'.

In 2006

- occupation data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupation, First Edition, Revision 1, 2006 (cat. no. 1220.0).
- industry data are classified according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006 (Revision 1.0) (cat. no. 1292.0).

In 2004

- computer assisted interviewing was introduced for the Job Search Experience Survey, and was fully implemented in July 2005. The change of interviewing method did not affect estimates in any meaningful way.

Data quality (Technical Note)

TECHNICAL NOTE DATA QUALITY

INTRODUCTION

1 Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate.

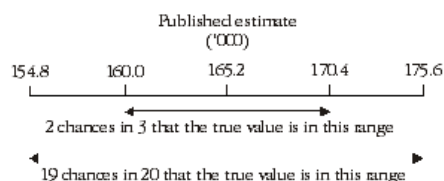
2 Due to space limitations, it is impractical to print the SE of each estimate in the publication. Instead, a table of SEs is provided to enable readers to determine the SE for an estimate from the size of that estimate (see table T1). The SE table is derived from a mathematical model, referred to as the 'SE model', which is created using data from a number of past Labour Force Surveys. It should be noted that the SE model only gives an approximate value for the SE for any particular estimate, since there is some minor variation between SEs for different estimates of the same size.

CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

3 An example of the calculation and the use of SEs in relation to estimates of persons is as follows. Table 4 shows the estimated number of unemployed females in Australia who were looking for full-time work was 165,200. Since this estimate is between 150,000 and 200,000, table T1 shows that the SE for Australia will lie between 5,000 and 5,600 and can be approximated by interpolation using the following general formula:

$$\begin{aligned} & SE \text{ of estimate} \\ &= \text{lower SE} + \left(\left(\frac{\text{size of estimate} - \text{lower estimate}}{\text{upper estimate} - \text{lower estimate}} \right) \times (\text{upper SE} - \text{lower SE}) \right) \\ &= 5,000 + \left(\left(\frac{165,200 - 150,000}{200,000 - 150,000} \right) \times (5,600 - 5,000) \right) \\ &= 5,200 \text{ (rounded to the nearest 100)} \end{aligned}$$

4 Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 160,000 to 170,400 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 154,800 to 175,600. This example is illustrated in the diagram below.



5 In general, the size of the SE increases as the size of the estimate increases. Conversely, the RSE decreases as the size of the estimate increases. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high RSEs that their value for most practical purposes is unreliable. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with RSEs of 25% or less are considered reliable for most purposes. Estimates with RSEs greater than 25% but less than or equal to 50% are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. *3.4) to indicate they are subject to high SEs and should be used with caution. Estimates with RSEs of greater than 50%, preceded by a double asterisk (e.g. **0.2), are considered too unreliable for general use and should only be used to aggregate with other estimates to provide derived estimates with RSEs of less than 25%. Table T2 presents the levels at which estimates have RSEs of 25% and 50%.

MEANS AND MEDIANS

6 The RSEs of estimates of mean duration of unemployment and median duration of unemployment are obtained by first finding the RSE of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the mean or median (see table T1) and then multiplying the resulting number by the following factors for Australian estimates:

- mean duration of unemployment: 1.6
- median duration of unemployment: 2.5

7 The following is an example of the calculation of SEs where the use of a factor is required. Table 4 shows that the estimated median duration of unemployment for unemployed females in Australia was 17 weeks and shows that the number of unemployed females was estimated as 271,900. The SE of 271,900 can be calculated from table T1 (by interpolation) as 6,400. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate or $6,400/271,900 = 2.4\%$.

8 The RSE of the estimate of median duration of unemployment for unemployed females is calculated by multiplying this

number (2.4%) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 2.5): $2.4 \times 2.5 = 6\%$. The SE of this estimate of median duration of unemployment for unemployed females is therefore 6% of 17 weeks, i.e. approximately one week. Therefore, there are two chances in three that the median duration of unemployment for females that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 16 to 18 weeks and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 15 weeks to 19 weeks.

9 Table T2 represents the minimum size of estimates, based on the SE model described in paragraph 2, required to have RSEs of less than 25% and 50% respectively. For example, an estimate of median duration of unemployment for Australia based on less than 29,000 persons will have an RSE of at least 25%, and an estimate of median duration of unemployment for Australia based on less than 10,000 will have an RSE of at least 50%. For all other estimates, (i.e. those estimates based purely on number of persons in a specific category), an estimate of less than 6,800 for the Australian total will have an RSE of at least 25% and an estimate of less than 1,600 will have an RSE of at least 50%.

PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

10 Proportions and percentages formed from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the RSE of a proportion is given below. This formula is only valid when x is a subset of y:

$$RSE\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

11 Considering the example from the previous page, of the 165,200 unemployed females who were looking for full-time work, 36,200 or 21.9% had been unemployed for one year or more. The SE of 36,200 may be calculated by interpolation as 3,100. To convert this to an RSE we express the SE as a percentage of the estimate, or $3,100/36,200 = 8.6\%$. The SE for 165,200 was calculated previously as 5,200, which converted to an RSE is $5,200/165,200 = 3.1\%$. Applying the above formula, the RSE of the proportion is:

$$RSE = \sqrt{(8.6)^2 - (3.1)^2} = 8.0\%$$

12 Therefore, the SE for the proportion of unemployed females looking for full-time work who had been unemployed for one year or more is 1.8 percentage points ($= (21.9/100) \times 8.0$). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of unemployed females looking for full-time work who have been unemployed for one year or more is between 20.1% and 23.7% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 18.3% to 25.5%.

DIFFERENCES

13 Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their SEs and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate SE of the difference between two estimates (x-y) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

14 While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

STANDARD ERRORS

T1 STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	NSW No.	Vic. No.	Qld. No.	SA No.	WA No.	Tas. No.	NT No.	ACT No.	Aust. No.	%
100	290	290	220	180	220	110	80	100	110	110.0
200	400	380	320	240	290	160	120	170	190	95.0
300	470	440	390	280	340	190	150	210	260	86.7
500	580	540	500	340	420	240	200	270	380	76.0
700	660	620	580	390	480	270	230	300	480	68.6
1,000	760	710	680	450	550	310	270	330	610	61.0
1,500	900	830	810	530	640	360	320	360	780	52.0
2,000	1 010	930	910	590	710	390	350	390	920	46.0
2,500	1 100	1 000	1 000	650	800	400	400	400	1 050	42.0
3,000	1 200	1 100	1 050	700	850	450	400	450	1 150	38.3
3,500	1 250	1 150	1 100	700	900	450	400	450	1 250	35.7
4,000	1 300	1 200	1 200	750	900	500	450	450	1 350	33.8
5,000	1 450	1 300	1 250	800	1 000	500	500	500	1 500	30.0
7,000	1 650	1 500	1 450	900	1 150	600	600	600	1 700	24.3
10,000	1 850	1 700	1 600	1 050	1 300	700	750	700	2 000	20.0
15,000	2 150	1 950	1 800	1 200	1 500	850	1 000	850	2 350	15.7
20,000	2 400	2 200	1 950	1 350	1 650	1 000	1 300	1 000	2 550	12.8
30,000	2 800	2 550	2 250	1 550	1 900	1 250	1 800	1 250	2 900	9.7
40,000	3 100	2 800	2 500	1 800	2 100	1 500	2 300	1 500	3 150	7.9
50,000	3 350	3 050	2 750	2 000	2 300	1 700	2 750	1 650	3 400	6.8
100,000	4 250	4 000	3 750	3 000	3 400	2 400	4 750	2 250	4 300	4.3
150,000	5 000	4 850	4 600	3 850	4 450	2 850	6 500	2 500	5 000	3.3

200,000	5 750	5 650	5 400	4 550	5 350	3 200	8 150	2 650	5 600	2.8
300,000	7 250	7 250	6 850	5 550	6 750	3 700	11 100	2 800	6 650	2.2
500,000	10 150	10 050	9 250	7 000	8 600	4 250	..	2 800	8 350	1.7
1,000,000	15 100	15 250	13 200	8 900	10 950	4 850	..	..	11 750	1.2
2,000,000	20 350	22 550	17 700	10 600	12 700	..	..	..	17 050	0.9
5,000,000	25 900	36 100	23 900	11 900	13 250	..	..	..	28 450	0.6
10,000,000	27 750	49 750	27 950	..	..	..	..	..	37 950	0.4
15,000,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42 850	0.3

.. not applicable

T2 Levels at which estimates have relative standard errors of 25% and 50%(a)

	NSW no.	Vic. no.	Qld no.	SA no.	WA no.	Tas. no.	NT no.	ACT no.	Aust. no.
25% RSE									
Mean duration of unemployment	11 200	9 500	8 600	4 400	6 200	2 300	1 600	2 400	14 700
Median duration of unemployment	29 800	25 700	22 600	12 100	18 100	8 100	5 200	6 700	29 000
All other estimates	6 300	5 400	5 100	2 600	3 500	1 400	1 100	1 400	6 800
50% RSE									
Mean duration of unemployment	3 700	3 100	3 000	1 500	2 100	800	500	1 000	4 400
Median duration of unemployment	9 900	8 600	8 400	4 100	6 200	2 800	1 800	2 400	10 000
All other estimates	2 000	1 800	1 700	800	1 200	500	300	600	1 600

(a) Refers to the number of people contributing to the estimate.